

25X1

REMARKS.

1. [redacted] the Bezirk and Kreis headquarters of the Athletic and Technical Association in Cottbus was located in a large villa on Diesterweg Street. The association was conducting an intensive propaganda campaign. Locals were set up in all industrial enterprises. A former pilot was designated to serve as an instructor for aerodynamics, meteorology, navigation and aircraft instruments. He was offered a three-month training course for pilots. The association intends to procure a low wooden building for instruction purposes.¹

2. Observations made at the field between 22 September and 3 October included:

Date in September	Time	Observations
22	8 a.m. to noon	Individual take-offs and local flying
23		No flying; poor weather conditions
24	8 a.m. to 3 p.m.	Planes circled over the field
25	7:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.	Local flying with subsequent spot landings. Then at an altitude of about 500 meters, the aircraft began to glide to a landing
26, 27, 28		No flying
29	8 a.m. to 5 p.m.	Individual take-offs and local flying
1 October	8 a.m. to 4 p.m.)
2 "	8:30 a.m. to 2 p.m.) Flying. No details could be observed.
3 "	8 a.m. to 2 p.m.)

The flying was done by two-seater, single-engine aircraft similar to Klemm type planes, which were parked in the hangars west of the flight control station. While flying was being conducted, a vehicle with a plexiglass cupola and two small antennas and a radio truck were observed at the take-off point.

CLASSIFICATION SECRET

25X1

SECRET/

- 2 -

The landing field was guarded by a VP sentry throughout the day. The take-offs and landings were made on the runway. The training aircraft had a short ground take-off run. Permission to land was apparently given by a man who waved a white flag and was posted at the take-off point.²

3. Additional aircraft crates arrived at the field. In early October, more than 50 such crates were observed in the northeastern corner of the field near the airfield spur track. Aircraft without wings were removed from these crates by means of a crane.³

4. German air police were quartered in the newly constructed single-story brick buildings and in the old barracks installation on the north side of the highway to Burg. The barracks installation on the south side of this highway behind the hangars quartered Russians.

6. In late September, pilot training was being conducted at the field. The previously observed aircraft similar to Klemm-type planes were no longer seen. On the other hand, a number of aircraft crates containing two-seater aircraft have been unloaded at the installation since late August. Flying has been conducted since that time with these planes almost daily. After some take-offs had been practiced, the pilots of the planes were exchanged. About ten master electricians from Cottbus repaired the airfield lighting installations in late September.

7. On 16 September, VP drivers took 28 new Borch W 6 trucks with 120 HP diesel engines from Zwickau to the airfield. Some of these trucks were later operating in the town.

8. Between 29 September and 1 October, source observed that Cottbus airfield was still guarded by Soviet soldiers who wore black-bordered blue epaulets. The guards who patrolled the airfield boundaries were also Russians. VP personnel was quartered in the airfield buildings on the north side on the highway to Burg.

9. Efforts were being made to organize an airfield fire brigade. Work was still being done on the airfield lighting system and on the board fence surrounding the field.

10. In the second half of September, 20 to 30 two-seater, single-engine aircraft with retractable landing gears were stationed at the field. The planes were painted gray-green and were marked by a red star on their rudder assemblies. There was flying at the field almost daily.

11. On several days during the second half of September, railroad tank cars arrived at the field. Four such cars were observed on 29 September. Sealed boxcars continuously arrived at the field. On 6 October, a freight car loaded with boxes 150x30x30 cm was sent to the field. The freight car was escorted by five soldiers.⁴

SECRET

- 3 -

12. The single-story brick buildings northwest of the field and the barracks installation on the north side of the highway to Burg quartered VP personnel.
- 25X1 13. On 29 September, [] 40 flatcars loaded with long crates passing through Doberlug en route from the direction of Halle toward Cottbus.⁵
- 25X1 14. On 11 October, Yak-11s [] practiced flying at the field which was discontinued at 2 p.m. Shortly afterwards three platoons of Volkspolizei, each numbering 50 men, marched to the newly built barracks installation on the east side of the highway to Burg.
15. An overhead telephone line was being built from Karl Marx school in Cottbus to the field. Prior to 27 September, the poles had been set up and cross arms for four telephone wires were mounted. The line followed the boundary of the landing field and, west of the fuel dump on the highway to Burg, turned south toward the airfield billets. The Karl Marx school was surrounded by a 2-meter board fence and guarded by a sentry who wore red-bordered black epaulets. Some of the soldiers who entered the installation wore black-bordered red epaulets.⁶
16. On 11 October, there was a friendship meeting of the FDJ and the VP air unit at the Altmarkt in Cottbus. The members of the VP unit, a battalion, wore their new uniforms which were identical to those worn by the Red Army except for the cockade worn on the cap.
- 25X1 1. [] Comment. The Athletic and Technical Association is charged with paramilitary training in East Germany.
- 25X1 2. [] Comment. A VP air regiment the pilots of which are being trained with Yak-11 aircraft is stationed at Cottbus airfield.
- 25X1 3. [] Comment. The arrival at the field of crated Yak-11s was reported previously. A total of about 50 Yak-11s are believed to have been turned over to the Volkspolizei so far. Some of these planes were flown to Kamenz and Bautzen airfields after being assembled in Cottbus.
- 25X1 4. [] Comment. It is believed that the boxes contained ammunition needed for firing practices.
- 25X1 5. [] Comment. Probably empty aircraft crates returned to Brest Litovsk. Shipments of such crates have been reported also from other airfields. The shipment observed is not connected with Cottbus airfield.
- 25X1 6. [] Comment. A Soviet agency is believed to be located at the Karl Marx school, because the telephone line reported runs to the Soviet billets at the field. The presence of a Soviet headquarters commanded by a general was reported previously. This headquarters is probably located at this school.